

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 1895.

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DRY GOODS, &C.

BROADWAY
9th & 10th Sts.
FOURTH AVE

NO MYSTERY ABOUT IT.

That we can make such little prices on first-class goods comes about in the most natural way. We are taking very large quantities—that counts; the importers and manufacturers are anxious to do business with us—that counts. It isn't a matter of sacrifice or anybody's ruin—just a straightforward, legitimate business, at a gain that we can keep up. We shall not be satisfied until every part of the store is in harmony, and on the highest level.

A SILK OCCASION

We mean to make Monday memorable in the history of silk retailing. We've the goods to do it, we've the nerve to do it. If you know silk values, a glance will tell you how astonishing these are.

At 28c, the yard—60 pieces white Jap silk, 23 in. good heavy cloth, right for confirmation dresses. Should be quick at 50c.
At 37c, the yard Two counters heaped with Summer Silks—printed Indias, Chinas, Japs, plain black Japs, figured and plain Pongees, all 23 in. new fresh goods; might well be 50c.
At 48c, the yard—Black Broaded Silks, Satins and Surahs, white and cream broaded Taffeta Pongees, 27 and 29 in. heavy black Japs, 60 to 70c. kind. We don't if the 200 pieces last day out.
At 77c, the yard—450 pieces Glace Bengalines, Gros de Londres, printed Taffetas, Glace Merveilles, stripes, checks, trawls, mostly last season's importations. We have been selling them at \$1.50 to \$2.50. None of them cost less than \$1.25 to land.
At 95c, the yard Lyons printed Pongees, Crepes and Crepons, pure silk, full line of evening shades, such as we have been selling at \$1.50 the yard.

BLACK SILKS

See what 95c, the yard will buy on Monday—Broaded Satins and Taffetas, Gros Grains, Gros de Londres, Grenadines, Bengalines and more that are usually \$1.25.

ROTONDA.

ART SILKS AND ART LINENS

The silks are last season's patterns, 26 in. for drapery, pillow or what you please, 38c. Instead of 75c, the yard. 15 yds. for a big ruffled pillow.
20 in. cambric covered down mixed Pillows, 50c. 20 in. pure down 75c. each.
But the marvel of marvels is with the Stamped Linens, goods that you've been paying fancy prices for.
Fine open worked hemstitched linen squares, 20, 24 and 28 in. at 45c; \$1 kind.
A 95c lot includes values up to \$2.50.
Tinted covers, 30 in. square, fringed all around, 39c.

BROADWAY.

LACE COLLARS—LACES

And still the whirlwind keeps up. Fresh surprises for Monday. Just from Plauen—Sans Gene, Van Dyke and Gismondia. 2 lots.
At \$1, worth up to \$2 and \$4.
At 60c, worth \$1.50 and \$2.
We know of nothing in America that approaches these values. 20 saleswomen.

300 pieces of Cape Laces up to 12 in., entirely new, values up to \$2 the yard. Black, all pure silk, 39c. the yard. No equal assortment of Nordman and French Val Laces anywhere.
BROADWAY.

JET COLLARS

Went like winking last week. Another lot just here by steamer. Beautifully cut, fine black silk net, \$2.50 kind at \$1, \$10 kind at \$3.75. We expect no more this season at these absurd prices.
BROADWAY.

WHITE GOODS

Dotted Swisses are the scarcest thing in white goods, they say. Are they? Look at these snowy teapots just from St. Gall.
28c the yard, usually 40c.
39c yd., usually 65 and 75c.
New white Dimities, 10c yd., usually 15c.
White India Linen, Victoria Lawn, 10c; usually 15c.
Only one piece of either to a customer.
BROADWAY AND TENTH STREET.

HOSIERY—UNDERWEAR

A few more sample handfals from the great stock that has been making friends so fast.
Miles' black ribbed cotton Hose, guaranteed fast black, sizes 5 to 8, 3 for 50c; were 55c. the pair.
Women's black and white Swiss ribbed silk Drawers, \$2.50; were \$3.50.
Women's Swiss ribbed lisle thread Vests, high neck, long sleeves, white, 50c; were \$1.
Women's Summer weight Swiss ribbed wool Vests, white, 80c; were \$1.
Miles' white ribbed cotton Vests, high neck, long sleeves, 10c; were 25c.
Women's black lisle thread Hose, guaranteed stainless, openwork ankles, 39c the pair; were 55c.
Women's Hermsdorf Red black lisle thread Hose, 25c the pair; were 35c.
Women's fancy cotton Hose, fast black boots, colored tops; also Women's lisle thread Hose in bronze and slate shades, 3 pairs for 50c; were 65c. the pair.
Women's Hermsdorf dye black cotton Hose, extra quality, double soles and high apollo heels, 3 pairs for \$1; were 50c. the pair.
BROADWAY AND TENTH ST.

SC. SHEETING, 4-4, AT 5C.

Bleached Sheeting, a new brand. The ridiculous price is to introduce it. 5c.
More yet. Here are New York Mill and Uica Bleached Sheetings on new price lines—
5-4 Bleached Sheeting, 10c.
6-4 Bleached Sheeting, 13c.
8-4 Bleached Sheeting, 17c.
9-4 Bleached Sheeting, 19c.
10-4 Bleached Sheeting, 21c.
Berkeley English Long Cloth, \$1 and \$1.25 the piece of 12 yards. Never before under \$1.25 and \$1.50.
FOURTH AVENUE SIDE.

FRAMED PICTURES.

Of course these prices are unheard of, but there's a new picture store here, and this is its first nod to you.

Hofenhausen Madonna, Queen Louie and other popular subjects, 20x24 in. beautifully colored photographs, handomely framed, with white enameled, well gilded, brass trimmings, each \$2.50. Water Colors and Pastels 3 in. gilt frames, at \$6.
Artotype, 11x14 in., 40c.
High grade water colors, etchings, photographs, &c., framed and unframed.
Framing to order a specialty.
BASEMENT, NINTH ST. SIDE.

Hilton, Hughes & Co.
SUCCESSORS TO A.T. STEWART & CO.BROADWAY
9th & 10th Sts.
FOURTH AVE.

DRESS GOODS.

A storm of styles, a wilderness of weaves, a wonder spread of all that is new and charming in woven stuffs. That's the sort of a Dress Goods store we keep. A good share of the women hereabouts know it. We mean that they shall all know it.
Crepons, the way weaves that fashion's smile sits so softly on, 1,200 yds. fine French. A wide range of winsome wrinkles, 50c. kind at 60c.
Silk warp Crepons, new ripple pattern, 48 in., \$1.75 kind at \$1.25.
Silk and wool Crepons, 47 in., day and evening shades, \$1.50 kinds at \$1.
Two special lines, silk and wool Jacquards and Cheviots, 20 styles Spring Shades in each, 68c. and 70c.
Scotch Tweed effects, 50 in., \$1 kind at 75c.
French and English Suitings, plaids, stripes and checks, \$1.25 to \$2 kind at \$1, \$1.50 and \$1.75.

BLACK DRESS GOODS.

2,000 yds. black fancy Crepons at 60c.; the 90c. kind.
Handsome black Crepons, \$1; \$1.50 kind.
Novelty Mohair Jacquards, 70c.; \$1 kind.
Choice French Crepons, \$1.50, \$1.95 and \$2.50; usually \$2.75, \$3 and \$3.50.

WASH GOODS.

2,500 yds. 19-20c. Glacians, desirable patterns, 15c. grade of now at 10c.
2,000 yds. 31 in. Lawn polka dots, stripes, figures, neat, new, for spring of 1895, at 12 1/2c.
Bonnette Scotch Glacians, a cotton goods oddness, colors rich, 20c. kind at 15c.
Fine French Organdies, 25c.; Parisian Bathing, 30c. and 35c., bare and elbow.
Heavy Duck Cloth, for tailor made costumes, 31 in., at 10c.

NEAR ROTONDA.

HANDKERCHIEFS.

Three record breaking lots. Never mind how it happens; look at the handkerchiefs. Your one worry then will be to get as many as you want. These lots are large, but the values are so extraordinary that we put them on sale between definite hours, that all may have a fair chance at them.
On sale between 5 and 10 A. M.—2,000 doz. Miles' and Children's fine mull hemstitched Handkerchiefs, embroidered initial, at 8c. each; only one doz. to a customer.
On sale between 12 and 1 P. M.—Women's fine, pure linen, hemstitched Handkerchiefs, at 10c.; 25c. kind; no more than six to a buyer.
On sale between 4 and 5 P. M.—Pure linen, hand embroidered, hemstitched Handkerchiefs, unlimited, at 10c.; usually 25c.
All of these men's fine pure linen, hemstitched initial Handkerchiefs, 25c. kind at 15c.; fine embroidered, scalloped India linen and French mull Handkerchiefs, 25c. kind at 10c. In a 10c. lot are goods worth up to 50c.

BROADWAY.

EASTER. RIBBONS

More ribbon space, more ribbon light, more ribbon stock and styles, better ribbon value, they say, than anywhere else in America. An assortment that is simply bewildering.
Black double satin, Nos. 16 and 22, at 17c. the yard; pure silk, made for us. Don't compare with gum weighted goods. The 30c. kind round about.
Nos. 30 and 40 at 25c. the yard.
200 pieces Dresden Ribbons, 4 in., pure silk, \$1 kind at 25c. yard.
Striped Ribbons, the sort so fashionable for waists, vests, neckwear and summer silk trimming, 25c. yd. Small checked Ribbons, pure silk, imported to go at 75c., on Monday, 25c.—all the importer had.

BROADWAY.

COLORED VELVETS

More than 40 good shades are still left in the big lot of last week, \$1.25 kind at 50c.—maybe enough to last all day. Manufacturers, Milliners and Dress-makers are snapping them up. Don't let this chance slip if you care for such Velvets. They'll very likely cost more next fall at wholesale.

ROTONDA.

EASTER MILLINERY

Of course you're thinking of the new Bonnet. Which would you prefer, to dig it from a jumble of everything, a hodge podge of sorts, a raking together of kinds—or to quietly choose it from a selection of the very best and most stylish?
The aim here has not been to heap up thousands of Trimmed Hats simply to make a show; it has been to get together the most elegant styles, where they can be easily seen and studied.
So of the untrimmed hundreds of selected shapes—plenty of room.

SECOND FLOOR, BROADWAY AND TENTH ST.

WOMEN'S CAPES AT HALF

Entire stock of Capes of one of the largest importers and manufacturers of Women's Capes and Coats. Some cloth, some silk braided, beaded and all handsomely trimmed in black and fancy colors. Had they come in the usual way, we would have made the prices \$8, \$10, \$12 and \$25. You may take them at \$4, \$7.50, \$10 and \$12. Many are silk lined and all are extremely desirable.

SECOND FLOOR, BROADWAY.

ARISTA CORSETS

Medium Long Waisted White Corset and Black Lasting Corsets. Genuine Whalebone. Not all sizes. They've been \$7.50 to \$10.00. Now \$2.00.
Extra Long Waisted White Corset and Black Lasting Corsets, heavily boned with genuine Whalebone, double steel, handomely trimmed. Nearly all sizes \$5.00. Were \$7.00, \$9.00 and \$11.00.

SECOND FLOOR, FOURTH AVENUE.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

Surprising, isn't it, to see such a getting together of these dainty things? Look like carefully home work, don't they? Generous sizes, generous seams, perfect finish—trimmed as if by artists and priced almost as if somebody had found them.

We know how good and great the assortment is. We want every woman hereabouts to know it. The oftener she comes the better she'll know it. At first we must make special effort to tempt you to come; therefore these unusual lots which we hold till certain hours that all see and share them.
ON SALE AT 2:30 P. M.

300 Cambric and Muslin Gowns. New goods.

Trimmed with newest embroideries. All of them lovely, pretty garments. Some elaborately trimmed. Some with ribbon at neck, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, instead of \$1.75 and \$2.50.
ON SALE AT 3:30 P. M.
300 strong Muslin Drawers. Wide, neat Swiss ruffles; eight spaced plaids above. 25c. Three pieces only to one buyer.
ON SALE AT 4 P. M.

300 fine Cambric Corset Covers. High square neck.

Trimmed with new patterns of Swiss Embroidery. 12c. Three pieces only sold to one buyer.

FOR THE LITTLE FOLKS

Pretty mull Caps, 15 cords, full lace, reaching round front and on top. Generous strings, 12-13-14-15 and 16 inch, 50c.
Point d'esprit Bonnets. Trimmed in front with wide ruffle and lace ruchings. Bow of same on top, wide strings and deep neck capes, \$1.50.
Infants' bonnetette Caps. Pinked edge. Large full sleeves. Ribbon at neck. Light ground with pink and blue stripes, 15c.
Infants' Wrappers of pretty bonnetette in pink and blue stripes. Pinked edge. Ribbon at neck. Full sleeves, 30c.
A few Cambric Night Slips for baby. Cambric ruffles on neck and sleeves. Wide plain down front, 15c.
Short Dresses of fine Cambric Embroidery, embroidery on collar and cuffs, 6 mos. and 1 and 2 year sizes, 50c.
Short Dresses of fine Cambric, pointed yoke of fine plaid, new style embroidery, neat Swiss edge on neck and sleeves, very large, full sleeves, 6 mos. and 1 and 2 year sizes, 60c.

SECOND FLOOR, FOURTH AVENUE.

UPHOLSTERY

Think of what you'd like an Upholstery store to be. See if this doesn't fill the bill.
Pilled Lace Curtains, Point d'esprit effects, 50 in. 32 1/2 yds., regular \$4.25 kind, at \$2.25 the pair. Not for dealers and no more than 6 pairs to one buyer.
24 in. Tulle-curtains, scalloped and hem-attached, edged with fine lace, \$1.50.
Fine Down Cushions, cretonne cover; were \$1.25 to \$3.50, now 75c. to \$2.25.

THIRD FLOOR, FOURTH AVENUE.

IN THE TIDY STORE

Embroidered Toilet Sets for Bureau, Chiffoniers, dressers, &c.—a long Scarf and 3 ties, beautiful patterns, fine quality, at \$2.45 the set.
Open work Irish point Scarfs, rich patterns, 98c. each; fairly worth \$2.
BROADWAY.

GROCERIES

Quality first. There's no other way to build a great Grocery business. No matter how little the price, if the thing is mean you don't want it. It would be an injury to us if you kept unsatisfactory goods. We want you to come twice, ten times, all the time. Our warrant is behind all we sell.
Clam Bouillon, best quality, made from selected clams, packed in half pint cans; usual price 15c the can; our price 8c; 50c the doz.
Oyster Bay Asparagus, finest quality, full bunch of long, white, tender spears in every can, 3 days only, 25c the can.
Lucas Oil, finest quality, warranted equal to the best imported, regular price 64 and 30c; our price, this week only, 45c large bottle; 25c medium bottle.
Celery Salt, best quality, packed in large castor bottles, excellent with soup, fish or meats, regular 15c size at 8c the bottle.
X. Y. State Harrowed Peas, finest quality, excellent flavor, sweet and meaty, preferred by some to early June's, 10c the can.
X. Y. State Stringless Beans, a small, crisp, whole bean of fine flavor and color, 10c the can.
X. Y. State Baked Apples, peeled, cored and quartered, excellent for making pies, pudding or sauce, 12c the can; \$1.50 the doz.
Maine Sugar Corn, Baby Corn, finest quality, sweetest, tenderest, small kernels, solid pack, 15c the can; \$1.72 the doz.; \$3.40 the 2 doz. case.
Columbia River Salmon Steaks, one solid piece, the tenderness of the fish, to eat hot or cold, 18c. the 1 lb. flat can; \$2.10 the doz.
Preserved sweet oranges, finest quality, sliced, preserved in heavy syrup, 20c the 20 oz. jar.
Hallowe Dates, best quality, a seasonable, healthy article, 8c the lb. box.
Old-fashioned Apple Butter, best quality, made of selected apples and boiled cider, properly spiced, 31c the stone crock, with lid.
California Lemon Cling or Crawford Peaches, fine quality, good flavor, heavy syrup, fine color fruit and cut in halves, 18c the can; \$2.08 the doz.
Sunbeam Syrup, finest quality, the "King" of syrups, made of heavy sugar syrup, flavored with grape fruit, 25c the large bottle.

BASEMENT, FOURTH AVENUE.

EASTER EGGS—CARMELS

Watch him—that French confectioner—decorating Chocolate Easter Eggs. How easy! How artistic! Any name or motto you wish.
Pay 40c. for Caramels if you want to—but there's no need of it. These at 20c. are the 40c. kind. Five flavors.
BASEMENT.

BOYS' CLOTHING

Think of a knockabout Suit for the boy of 6 to 15 years, Gray effects, \$6 kind at \$4! Not a big lot, but it isn't a big Clothing Store yet. Before the blossoms fall it will be, though—you'll make it.

EMBROIDERED FLOUNCES

Fine Swiss, plenty of stitches, new designs, meant for home making and satisfactory wear.
At 25c.; worth 50c.
At 37c.; were up to \$1.
Dotted effects, entirely new, 67c. for \$1.25 kind, 2 1/2 yds., ample for a child's skirt. Do your own figuring on costs.
BROADWAY SIDE.

CARPETS

Not many patterns left in the surprise lots. Willows at \$1.25, Axminsters at 80c., Ingrains at 40 and 60c. New patterns all of them, some with borders.
For the summer cottage here are Art Squares, Jap Mats, China Matting. Largest assortment, lowest prices.
We are sole agents for the Interior Hard Wood Company Parquet Floors.
THIRD FLOOR.

EASTER FURNISHINGS

For men, anything, everything—scarfs, gloves, suspenders, shirts. Sometimes at one-third prices.

Large flowing end four-in-hands, tecks, club ties, handkerchiefs and graduated four-in-hands, regular 50 and 75c. kind, at 25c.
Suspenders with patent cast and drawer attachment, 25 and 30c., some were 50c. and \$1.
BROADWAY.

WOMEN'S TEA GOWNS

A little lot of China Silk Tea Gowns comes to us so that we can pass them to you at about wholesale cost.

China Silk Tea Gowns, wide sailor collar, trimmed with lace, ribbon at waist, Watteau back, full sleeves, black, pink and blue, \$7.50; the 12 kind.
China Silk Tea Gown, pointed collar, back and front of lace, trimmed with ribbon and eren lace on collar and sleeves, Watteau back, large, full sleeves, ribbon at waist, crush collar, \$12; the 18 kind.
Fancy China Silk Tea Gown in pretty stripes and figure, elaborately trimmed with lace and ribbon, extra large, full sleeves, \$12.75.
China Silk Tea Gown, pointed, plaited yoke, tastefully trimmed on collar, yoke and sleeves with lace, Watteau back, ribbon at waist, pink and blue, \$17.50.

SECOND FLOOR, NINTH STREET.

CHINA—GLASSWARE

3,000 dozen pure lead blown Glass Beer and Table Glasses, various sizes, kinds that have been 60c. to \$1.50 dozen, may go at 35c. dozen.
Imitation cut glass Easter Vases, 14 to 65c. Very fine large Royal Victoria Vase, richly decorated, \$12.50 and \$15 kinds, at \$5.85.

We shall end one stock pattern

"Doultons" underglaze porcelain at less than half prices—plates 8c. each, preserves 3c., meat dishes 10c. to 75c., covered vegetable dishes 50c., bowls 10c., and all other pieces in proportion.
BASEMENT.

IN THE SHOE STORE

More room, more business—more deserving. And it's only the start.

Women's \$3 to \$5 Oxfords, tan, black, patent leather, at \$1.60.
Variety of Women's Boots, \$3.50 to \$6 kinds, at \$2.60.
Women's Kid Boots, narrow toes, medium heels, handsewed, turned soles, \$3, instead of \$4.50.
SECOND FLOOR, TENTH STREET.

FURNITURE

Two acres of Samples—and not a piece among them that we cannot vouch for. It's only the prices that are low down.

Solid Oak Bedroom Suit, three pieces—bedstead, bureau, washstand—good quality hair mattress, good worn wire spring, pair feather pillows, and \$25 for the lot!
100 high back and arm Rockers—antique oak and imitation Mahogany, polish finish saddle (wood) seat, \$3.85 each.
Antique Oak Chiffoniers, polish finish, 5 large, deep, generous drawers, \$3.25 only \$1.25 the drawer!
FOURTH FLOOR.

WOMEN'S OUTING SUITS.

Going abroad this summer or going to the Mountains? Want a good knockabout Suit that looks nice and costs little?
Look at these. Just a little heavy for city wear in summer time, but the very thing for Mountain or Sea.
Have been \$12.80 to \$30.00.
Now \$5.00 to \$15.00—Broken sizes, of course, and only a few of a kind.
SECOND FLOOR, BROADWAY.

UMBRELLAS,

26 and 28 inch, for women and men. Several thousand pure silk and union silk, black and colors, handles of gold plate, sterling silver, Dresden balls and crooks, horn and ebony, all the fine English hand woods, for rain or shine, \$4, \$5 and \$6 kind, at \$2.10.

WHITE PARASOLS.—Thousand more of the pure white India Parasols at \$1. Some hundreds with Dresden balls at \$1.25.
A little later they will be scarce at double or more. Women's gros grain silk carriage Parasols, \$2.80 and \$3 kind, at \$1.
BROADWAY.

OSCAR WILDE'S CURIOUS CAREER.

Mrs. Frank Leslie Pays an Earnest and Flattering Tribute to the Fallen Poet as Son, Husband, Father and Friend.

DESCRIBES HIS HOME LIFE.

Glimpses Into the Life of Lady Wilde and the Author's Devotion to Her.

HE WORSHIPPED HIS WIFE.

Interesting Study of Wilde's Literary Work and His Opinions as a Moralist.

A TRUE POET, CRITICS SAY.

Impressions of His Personal Eccentricities and Experiences in This Country.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]
LONDON, April 6, 1895.—Oscar Wilde's friend, Alfred Taylor, was arrested and taken to the Bow Street Police Station this morning.
Oscar Wilde was arraigned in the Bow Street Police Station this morning and charged with inciting young men to commit crime and also with having actually committed crime himself. Taylor was also placed in the prisoners' dock, charged with being accessory to Wilde's crime. As Taylor stepped into the dock Wilde smilingly recognized him. Taylor is a

MRS. OSCAR WILDE.



MRS. OSCAR WILDE.

man of medium size, with sharp features and a fair complexion.

Charles Parker, nineteen years of age, was the first witness examined. He gave in detail the particulars of his introduction to Wilde by Taylor, and stated that the latter said Wilde was "good for money." Parker testified that he had frequently dined with Wilde at various restaurants, and detailed the conversations between them on those occasions. He also told of visits to the Savoy Hotel with Wilde and of meeting Wilde at his chambers in St. James' place. He made frequent visits to the latter place, Parker swore that he had received money and other presents upon almost every occasion.

The story told by Parker, if true, proves the case of the treasury against Wilde. Counsel for Wilde and Taylor reserved their right to cross-examine Parker, who was bound over to the sum of \$25 to give evidence in the Old Bailey proceedings.

Taylor's tea parties. William Parker, brother of the first witness called, was placed on the stand, and confirmed the story of the first meeting between his brother and Wilde in March, 1892. The habitude of the house in which Taylor lodged was next examined, and gave testimony regarding the youths who attended the tea parties given by Taylor. She said she had heard Taylor address somebody as Oscar, but did not recognize Wilde as having been one of her lodger's visitors.

Alfred Wood, the man whose passage to America was paid by Wilde, upon being sworn, testified that he met Wilde at the Cafe Royal, in January, 1893. He went to Wilde's house, No. 11, Tite Street, Chelsea, S. W.

The witness said Wilde had given him £25, upon the receipt of which sum he had handed over to Wilde a number of letters written by him. Subsequently he went to America, remaining abroad fourteen months. He desired to go to America, he said, to get away from Wilde and certain other persons, who are now absent from England.

The next witness was a youth named Mavor, who absolutely denied that he had been guilty of any misconduct with Wilde, and also denied positively that he had admitted to the Marquis of Queensbury or the latter's solicitor that there had been anything wrong in his relations with Wilde.

prosecuted under the Criminal Law Amendment act, which classifies his offense as a misdemeanor, the maximum penalty of which is two years' imprisonment for conviction.

MRS. LESLIE'S TRIBUTE.

She Speaks in Praise of the Poet as Husband, Father and Friend.

There is probably no one individual in this country more deeply grieved and shocked over the disclosures which have brought about the downfall of Oscar Wilde than Mrs. Frank Leslie.

Mrs. Leslie's marital difficulties with his brother never at any time disturbed the cordial relations which existed between herself and Oscar Wilde. She saw him frequently during her yearly sojourns in London, and was always a welcome guest, both at his own home and that of his mother, Lady Wilde.

Mrs. Leslie regards Oscar Wilde as easily the most brilliant conversationalist of his time. She says she would not have believed evil of him from any other lips than his own, and now that he stands convicted by his own admissions she is still loath to credit them, for she declares they do not tally with the wonderful purity and affection which pervade the man's private life.

Mrs. Leslie's acquaintance with Oscar Wilde dates from the time of his visit to this country fifteen years ago, when he flashed upon her the brilliant eccentricity of his aesthetic fad, then in the zenith of its extravagance.

The friendship then formed has continued ever since. Mrs. Leslie since that time has been on terms of the closest intimacy with the Wilde family, so that no one is better entitled to speak authoritatively of the character and home life of the brilliant man whose career seems to be about ended. Mrs. Leslie's remarks in this direction will be found both spicy and entertaining.

THE PUZZLE OF HER LIFE.
"This terrible thing that has come upon Mr. Wilde," said Mrs. Leslie yesterday, "is the greatest puzzle of my life. I cannot reconcile it with what I know of Oscar Wilde. Remember, my opinion is based upon what I've seen of him in his home, as husband, son and friend. He has always been a devoted son. Never a day passes but that he visits his delightful old mother, bearing with him some gift of flowers or fruit. He has said to me, the tears welling up in his eyes: 'Ah, it will be the blackest day in my life when my mother is taken from me.' I was moved by his emotion, and said, 'How you love her?' Yes," he replied, "she's the best mother that ever lived."

"Oscar Wilde is the youngest of three children. There were also William and Isola. The latter, who was named for some old Irish princess, died when she was fourteen years old. Oscar was certainly the flower of the flock, both mentally and physically. You know at Oxford he graduated with the very highest honors. Perhaps, alas! he contracted this bad habit, if indeed he is guilty of it, at the University."

"The unfortunate thing, however, is that in London this abuse is very widespread. In my residence there I have been continually hearing of it as the by-play to almost every celebrated divorce suit that was in the mouths of the gossip."

"Why it had even gone so far, while I was

